

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC, NL
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EC ACTIONS AGAINST NON-GRAIN FEED INGREDIENTS

REF: A) THE HAGUE 4752

1. AGATT HAS HELD CONTINUING FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATIONS WITH MINAG AND
TRADE RE POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF EC QUOTE MASTERPLAN UNQUOTE AGAINST ALL

GRAIN SUBSTITUTES AS REPORTED REF A. WE ARE NOW INFORMED BY MINAG
SOURCE OF EXISTENCE OF PROJECT MEMORANDUM FROM AGRICULTURAL DIRECTORATE

TO GUNDELACH. THE MEMORANDUM DEALS ONLY WITH TAPIOCA BUT APPARENTLY
CONTAINS CERTAIN PHRASES WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN THAT
FURTHER EC ACTIONS AGAINST OTHER PRODUCTS ARE BEING CONSIDERED, IF
NOT PLANNED, BY COMMISSION. SPECIFICALLY, MEMORANDUM DESCRIBES
PROPOSAL AGAINST TAPIOCA IMPORTS (OUTLINED BELOW) AS QUOTE PARTIAL
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SOLUTION UNQUOTE TO FEEDSTUFF PROBLEM AND THAT IT IS BETTER TO
ENVISAGE THE APPLICATION OF AN IMPORT LEVY ON ALL NON-GRAIN FEED
INGREDIENTS. SUCH A LEVY WOULD BE CALCULATED ON THE BASIS OF
CORN AND BARLEY LEVIES.

2. THE MEMORANDUM SUGGESTS A QUOTA ON TAPIOCA IMPORTS BROKEN
DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

3.0 MMT-EC IMPORTS FROM THAILAND

0.24 MMT-EC IMPORTS FROM ALL OTHER COUNTRIES

3.24 MMT-TOTAL

IMPORTS IN EXCESS OF THIS QUOTA WOULD BE SUBJECT TO A LEVY BASED ON BARLEY LEVY. COMMENT. WE CAUTION THAT THE ABOVE COMES FROM AN INTERNAL COMMISSION MEMORANDUM AND DOES NOT REPRESENT A FORMAL EC PROPOSAL AGAINST TAPIOCA IMPORTS. FRANKLY, WE ARE SURPRISED AT THE SEVERITY OF THIS MEASURE AND DOUBT THAT IT WOULD EVER BE APPROVED IN ITS PRESENT FORM. TALK ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION OF A QUOTA HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD BUT HERETOFORE IT HAD BEEN EXPECTED THAT 1) SUCH A QUOTA WOULD APPLY ONLY TO THAILAND AND WOULD TAKE THE FORM OF A VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENT, AND 2) THE QUOTA LEVEL WOULD BE HIGHER, I.E. ABOUT 4 MILLION METRIC TONS. END COMMENT.

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF WHEAT BY-PRODUCTS, THERE IS DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN MINAG AND TRADE RE LIKELY OUTCOME OF SEPTEMBER 21 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING IN BRUSSELS. MINAG SOURCES TELL US THAT DUTCH HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY HIGH LEVEL OF COMMISSION THAT THEY WILL NOT BE TAKEN BY SURPRISE AT THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. DUTCH HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT DECISION ON WHEAT BY-PRODUCTS WILL BE POSTPONED PENDING DISCUSSION BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IN LATE SEPTEMBER ON THE FEEDSTUFF PROBLEM IN ITS ENTIRETY. HOWEVER, DUTCH TRADE FEELS THAT EXPERTS MEETING EARLIER IN SEPTEMBER WILL CLEAR THE WAY FOR A FINAL DECISION ON WHEAT BY-PRODUCTS ON SEPTEMBER 21. CONSEQUENTLY, TRADE IS LOBBYING VIGOROUSLY WITHIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COCERAL AND FEFAC AGAINST EC TRADE RESTRICTIONS ON ANY NON-GRAIN FEED INGREDIENT. WE ARE TOLD THAT COCERAL IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO MEET WITH HAVERKAMP BEFORE SEPTEMBER 21.
JOSEPH

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